

# AZ LINKS NEWSLETTER

[www.azlinks.gov](http://www.azlinks.gov)



## Welcome

Welcome to our second newsletter. We are introducing Southeastern AZ Links, the most recently formed regional partnership. With six regional partnerships, we now have coverage in all fifteen counties.

Also included is information about the new ALTCS districts and DDD regions statewide and some news from regional ADRCs. We would like to hear more about regional partners.

*Jutta Ulrich*

*Arizona ADRC Project Coordinator*

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Welcome	1
Southeastern AZ Links	1
The SART: Data Tells the Story	2
ALTCS New Regions	2
Pinal-Gila ADRC and ABIL	3
ADRC Statewide Meetings	3
DDD New Districts	3
DDD District Map Maricopa County	4
Newsletter Submissions	5
News and Announcements	5

## Southeastern AZ Links

Submitted by Nancy Harwood, SEAGO Area Agency on Aging, Region VI

The Southeastern Arizona regional ADRC partnership began in August of 2011 with a two-day training and planning event in Sierra Vista. The [SEAGO – Area Agency on Aging](#) (Region VI) is taking the lead in growing the partnership and regional activities. Key partners include DIRECT, Center for Independence, and the regional ALTCS and DDD offices. The Southeastern Arizona ADRC has already had two regional networking meetings. The first meeting in October dealt with Open Enrollment with an overview of Medicare provided by Grace Murcio of SEAGO, and Janice Bush from the ALTCS office explained the ALTCS Pre Assessment Screening tool, the PAS.

The January meeting dealt with resources for disabled individuals in training, education, and adaptive aids. Dave Cheesman, from

[DES/Independent Living Rehabilitation Services \(ILRS\)](#) spoke about resources for training and vocational rehabilitation, and Randy Collins, Program Director of the Arizona Technology Access Program ([AzTAP](#)), spoke about their program for loaning or purchasing assistive devices. AzTAP is a federally funded program that is part of Northern Arizona University Institute for Human Development. The mission is to promote awareness of, access to and acquisition of Assistive Technology (AT) for persons with disabilities of all types and ages. In addition to the AT/equipment lending and demonstration program, AzTAP provides a wide variety of Assistive Technology (AT) related services and programs, including low interest financing for AT, AT/equipment reutilization, the Arizona Department of Education – Exceptional Student Services AT/equipment loan program, information and assistance on AT needs, an annual statewide conference on AT topics, training and technical assistance on AT needs as well as interagency coordination and collaboration about AT. AzTAP as a program can support and assist Arizona residents with disabilities, their families and rehabilitation providers with investigating and obtaining Assistive Technology of all forms.

## The SART: Data Tells the Story

By Jutta Ulrich

The Aging and Disability Resource Consortium (ADRC) is a virtual community to improve information, referral and access to long term services and supports. To document the excellent work that all the partner agencies are doing, the DES-Division of Aging and Adult Services collects data and then sends it to the Administration on Aging in Washington. The mechanism for this reporting is the Semi-Annual Reporting Tool, or SART.

Data is submitted by key partners twice a year in April and October, for the preceding six month period. Key partners in our Consortium are the Area Agencies on Aging, Centers for Independent Living, DDD, and ALTCS. The data allows us to understand what we achieve in Arizona and helps build a case for future funding.

These are some of our accomplishments reported for April – September 2011:

- Over 95,000 total contacts (consumers and professionals) were made to ADRC key partners.
- Over 30,000 referrals were made to public and private services.
- The website [www.azlinks.gov](http://www.azlinks.gov) got 19,629 hits.
- 225 individuals received transition assistance.

## NEW ALTCS Regions

By Sandy Alderman, AHCCCS

Updated March 13, 2012

AHCCCS-ALTCS is geographically divided into four regions.

- Region One is Maricopa County. The regional program manager is Paul Jutzi, and Angelica Quezada is the regional ADRC contact, located in Phoenix.
- Region Two includes Pima County, Pinal and Gila Counties, and Southeastern Arizona with Cochise, Graham, Greenlee, and Santa Cruz Counties. There are offices in Tucson, Casa Grande, Miami, and Sierra Vista. The regional program manager is Alicita Loeffler, located in Tucson, and she is also the regional ADRC contact.
- Region Three covers Northern Arizona (Yavapai, Coconino, Apache, and Navajo Counties) with offices in Flagstaff, Prescott, Cottonwood, Show Low and Chinle. The regional program manager is Shelley MacIntosh and the regional ADRC contact is Barbara Kelsey.
- Region Four is the entire Western part of the state (Mohave, La Paz and Yuma counties) with offices in Kingman, Lake Havasu City and Yuma. The regional program manager and ADRC contact is Terry Koenig.

## Pinal-Gila ADRC: ABIL is now at the Area Agency on Aging

The Pinal-Gila Council for Senior Citizens (PGCSC) is the lead agency for the Pinal-Gila ADRC. The Arizona Bridge to Independent Living (ABIL) is the Center for Independent Living in Pinal and Gila Counties.

Through the ADRC regional meetings, PGCSC and ABIL have strengthened their contacts, and ABIL now has an office at the PGCSC building on McCartney Road just north of Casa Grande.

Having ABIL on site should make it possible to better serve consumers in the Pinal-Gila area. Rosalie Perry is the ABIL staff contact person and can be reached at 602-443-0707 or [rosaliep@abil.org](mailto:rosaliep@abil.org). The ADRC contact at PGCSC is Olivia Guerrero, 520-836-2758.

## ADRC Committee Meetings

Please mark your calendar for two meetings for partners to discuss progress and exchange best practices. We will also discuss the need for additional planning sessions and meetings with other organizations (e.g. veterans, state libraries, community action agencies).

### Statewide Partners Meetings

- Wednesday, March 14, 2012, from 9 to 11:30 am
- Wednesday, September 12, 2012, from 10 am to 12

## Division of Developmental Disabilities New Districts

By Carol Sherer, Division of Developmental Disabilities

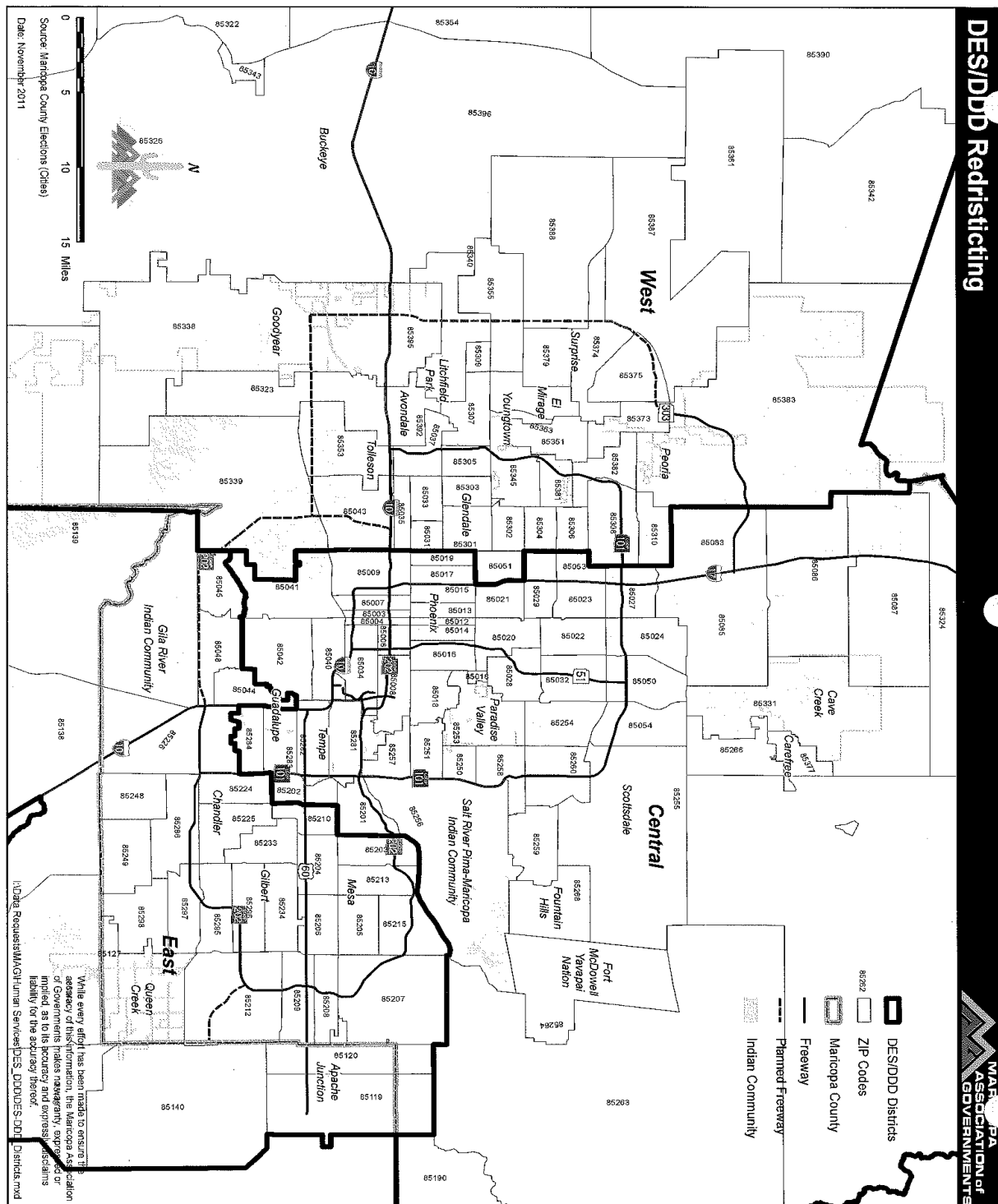
DDD has completed the redistricting and now serves its consumers through five distinct districts.

- The North District covers La Paz, Mohave, Coconino, Yavapai, Navajo, Apache, and Northern Gila County (Payson) Counties. Susan Hawley is the District Program Manager. The District office is in Flagstaff and staff can be contacted at 928-773-4957
- The Southern District covers Pima, Santa Cruz, Graham, Greenlee, Cochise and Yuma Counties. Tim Sikkema is the District Program Manager. The District office is in Tucson and staff can be contacted at 520-628-6800

Maricopa County was split into three distinct Districts (see map next page).

- The West District covers the West Valley, including Gila Bend and Wickenburg. Lisa Cavazos-Barrett is the District Program Manager. The District office will be located at the Surprise office however the needed construction is not complete so we do not have a phone number. Lisa is temporarily at 4000 North Central and can be reached at 602-246-0546.
- The Central District covers the Central area of Maricopa County and the North Eastern part of the County including Fountain Hills, Scottsdale and Paradise Valley. Nancy Burdick is the District Program Manager. The District office is at 4000 North Central Suite 900. The phone number for the District office is 602-246-0546.
- The East District covers the South Eastern part of Maricopa County, Pinal and most of Gila County. Geoff Foote is the District Program Manager. He is temporarily housed in the Apache Junction office. The phone number for that office is 480-474-3974.

The redistricting allows staff to spend more time with consumers and to be of greater assistance to them.



## News and Announcements

### Behavioral Health and Older Adults Conference

Friday June 15, 2012,  
Casino del Sol, Tucson, Arizona.  
[conference@bhacsa.com](mailto:conference@bhacsa.com)

### Administration on Aging's [Profile of Older](#)

[Americans: 2011](#), an annual summary of the latest statistics on the older population, covers 15 topical areas including population, income and poverty, living arrangements, caregiving, and health.

### Third Annual Disability Empowerment Center (DEC) Health and Wellness Fair

Presented by Bridgeway Health Solutions.

April 27 and 28, 2012, at the Disability Empowerment Center, 5025 E. Washington Street, Phoenix Arizona 85434. For questions, contact David Carey at 602 / 443-0723 or [davidc@abil.org](mailto:davidc@abil.org).

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has released the draft [National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease](#) with specific action steps to accelerate research on treatment and prevention, as well as proposals for improving care, services, and support for patients, families, and caregivers. Public comment will be accepted through March 30, 2012 and should be e-mailed to [napa@hhs.gov](mailto:napa@hhs.gov).

For ADRC partners, the **ADRC Technical Assistance Exchange**, [www.adrc-tae.org](http://www.adrc-tae.org), offers a wealth of resources on numerous topics, including ADRCs in other states, options counseling, community living programs, and Alzheimer's Disease Supportive Programs. You can sign up for webinars and a newsletter.

## Newsletter Submissions

### Dear AZ Link Partners,

My name is Matt Gajdowski, and I joined the DAAS this month as a Research and Program Assistant. I will be assisting in the creation of this newsletter and in the development of the new AZ Links web site.

This is your newsletter – let us know what you would like to see included.

We are especially interested in hearing about regional partners and the work they do. Please send any news or updates, special projects, activities, calendar pages, any photos or brief notices that you may want to include in the newsletter to [MGajdowski@azdes.gov](mailto:MGajdowski@azdes.gov).

Next newsletter: June 2012

Deadline for submissions: May 15, 2012

I look forward to hearing from you all!

*Matt*

### WEBSITES

SEAGO Area Agency on Aging

<http://www.seago.org/aaa/index.html>

AzTAP – Arizona Technology Access Program

<http://www.aztap.org/>

AZ Links [www.azlinks.gov](http://www.azlinks.gov)

AHCCCS-ALTCS

[www.azahcccs.gov/applicants/application/ALTCSoffices.aspx?ID=ALTCS](http://www.azahcccs.gov/applicants/application/ALTCSoffices.aspx?ID=ALTCS)

DES Division of Developmental Disabilities [www.azdes.gov/ddd/](http://www.azdes.gov/ddd/)

DES Rehabilitation Services Administration

<https://www.azdes.gov/rsa/ILRS/>

Profile of Older Americans 2011

[http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/Aging\\_Statistics/Profile/index.aspx](http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/Aging_Statistics/Profile/index.aspx)

National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease

<http://aspe.hhs.gov/daltco/napa/#DraftNatlPlan>